

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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R 170701Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, PGOV, KS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PARK'S AUGUST 15 SPEECH

1. PRESIDENT PAK'S MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN INDEPENDENCE, AUGUST 15, WAS READ BY PRIME MINISTER CH'OE AT OFFICIAL CEREMONY COMMEMORATING EVENT AND WIDELY PUBLISHED BY MEDIA.

2. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, WHICH TOOK ABOUT SEVEN MINUTES TO READ, SPOKE CONFIDENTLY OF ROK'S ACHIEVEMENTS, PROCLAIMING "KOREA IS NOT THE SAME COUNTRY THAT LIVED OFF THE AID OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES". PRESIDENT GAVE SIGNIFICANT EMPHASIS TO UNIFICATION THEME. ALTHOUGH HE AIMED A FEW BARBS AT THE NORTH, MENTIONING ROK'S ABILITY TO "SMASH THE AGGRESSIVE PROVOCATIONS OF NORTH KOREAN COMMUNISTS IN A SINGLE BLOW", AND LATER SAYING THAT "NORTH KOREAN COMPATRIOTS ARE ON THE VERGE OF LOSING THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY BECAUSE OF ALIEN IDEOLOGIES AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS", HE PRESENTED CALL FOR NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE IN SERIOUS FASHION. HE SAID WORLD HAD CHANGED FROM TIME OF MUTUAL COLD WAR CONFRONTATIONS AND ERA OF COMPETITIVE CO-EXISTENCE BETWEEN COUNTRIES OF DIFFERING IDEOLOGIES HAD OPENED, ENABLING THEM TO WORK TOGETHER FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT. PRESIDENT REGRETTED NORTH'S REJECTION OF JUNE 23
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PROPOSAL FOR CREATION OF CIVILIAN CONSULTATIVE BODY FOR PROMOTION OF TRADE, TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE AND CAPITAL COOPERATION.

3. PAK ALSO TOUCHED ON NEED FOR MORALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AS PREREQUISITE FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY, AND SAID GOVT "RESOLUTELY PUSHING ANTI-CORRUPTION MOVEMENT."

PRESIDENT'S RECONFIRMATION OF DETERMINATION TO PURSUE
ANTI-CORRUPTION MOVEMENT COMES IN WAKE OF LAST WEEK'S
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON APARTMENT
SCANDALS, SEX SCANDAL INVOLVING REPRESENTATIVE SONG,
AND IMBROGLIO INVOLVING ISSUANCE OF FRAUDULENT
CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS.
GLEYSTEN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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